

1958

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## Squeezes the Orange

... with a lanced in their drive a whole way of life of the country's 300 million along party-military and peasant lines, about a third of all the administrative and China have been transformed into the "which thus embrace over 150 million. The aim is to complete the transformation by

asserted that in several provinces, including been almost completely transformed being formed six months ago. But the first item was not made until August, and both were the Communist central committee has published. Now propaganda is filling the Chinese press. The reform is rapidly moving left, the first experiment in the suppression of all news about the coming weeks ago.

might well—may well—have been communal are explicitly designed to gouge amount of work out of the peasants and to lives and village roots. The peasants themselves along military lines, and "Re." In some places, according to Peking, claims "have become almost the only place Canteens, institutions for old people, and communal nurseries (which, in Hanoi, in charge of six million young children, two have in the province), are "liberating" women the home—including "road building, tree digging." "Part work, part study" makes schoolchildren available to swell the surviving private plots of land are being to the communes, and the peasants' houses too; are entitled to pull the houses down and use new communal buildings. China's rulers of Russia's; neither Stalin nor Mr. Khrushchev, leaving away altogether with private plots, only the Soviet government has made claims and expect.

Communist emphasizes that "along with the transfer of manpower, there is a growing collective farms" is "an urgent and changing situation." These farms are therefore to create the new larger units, which usually a long, and which also embrace all the industrial enterprises, schools, and trading organs. The district council becomes the commune, with new powers of discipline, over all the peasants, who "can, like factory workers be deployed with greater freedom and on

large, it is explained, will be to transform ownership by the commune into state ownership, this in between three and six years, or possibly a little longer, to local conditions. Also "where conditions are being turned into state-owned enterprises, out" to avoid unit, which, while conditions are not yet fit for payment may be temporarily retained. Peasant's pay is now being given him in tokens, which help to tie him to the commune, and the disintegration of family life.

The potential of the communes is officially emphasized through the organization of collective farms, waging battles against nature, not sparing

any effort to increase the productivity of agriculture, the construction of irrigation systems, the use of fertilizers, and so on. In our case cited by the Chinese, a collective farm has been formed in a central province, and the collective members have been

imposed on the members of the collective.

Despite of the communists appear to be

in 20,557 members, claim to have

and steel plants, machine-building plants

and other plants in

which, though more modest, has got

to 1,100 factories in the number

of increased no less fantastic claims are

seen to witness have already proved that

the Chinese fertilizer factories turn out to be

and their building plants look remarkably

in which form tools are repaired or man-

age of the odd machinery. But the Chinese

in books of improvisation cannot be forgotten

to over last week's claim that "in the

out mostly thousands of small building plants

are to be built, but a great drive for

which is undoubtedly in progress.

At the beginning of this year, Peking's propaganda

has been stressing the urgent need

of small rural industrial enterprises. There it

in a fragile, the rather megalomaniac emphasis on

steel complexes and other big industrial pro-

jects which emerges from the present situa-

tion is the need to ease the strain on the over-

crowd of urban another, the need to check the

over crowding of China's great cities. One reason

not officially mentioned, but leaps to the eye, is

the point that at not receiving Soviet supplies

for its second five year plan on anything like the

advised. Thus back on their country's own

Mr. Teng and his colleagues are nevertheless

targets are not down. They evidently believe

in their country's well known

improvisation may yet be

and they have set out to squeeze this

out till the pips squeak. The large

of peasant manpower which com-

mitted to meet exceptional situa-

is to come regular patterns.

The results are unlikely to be

now being made, but they are

And it is a happy piece of timing to

feature on a peasantry—which may yet

is claimed about the country

it has worked up a great enthusiasm

excitement threatening to attack China.

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